

Voting Rules for Primary Elections

The deadline to register to vote for any election is 21 days prior to that election. Applications received during the 20-day period when registration is closed will not be valid for that election. This includes changes in affiliation from one party to another party, but an unaffiliated registered voter may at any time change from unaffiliated to affiliated with a party.

A law passed in 2014 prohibits a person from changing party affiliation from the candidate filing deadline (noon June 1 or the next business day if June 1 is a weekend) until the date when the results of the primary are certified at the end of August. During this period a person may not switch parties or disaffiliate from a party. An unaffiliated registered voter may still affiliate with a party during this time period. [Note: The effective date of this law is July 1, 2014, so the prohibition will start July 1 rather than June 1 for the 2014 election.]

Major Political Parties

- A person registered as affiliated with the Republican Party 21 days prior to the election can vote a Republican ballot in the primary election.
- A person registered as affiliated with the Democratic Party 21 days prior to the election can vote a Democratic ballot in the primary election.

Minor Political Parties

- A person affiliated with one of the minor political parties recognized in Kansas (Libertarian) 21 days prior to the election is not eligible to vote in the August Democratic or Republican primary for any candidate, but is eligible to vote only on non-partisan questions if any are on the ballot.

Not Affiliated

- An unaffiliated registered voter may affiliate with a recognized political party at any time.

Affiliate on Election Day

- A person registered to vote but not affiliated with any political party 21 days prior to the primary may, on election day, choose to affiliate with the Republican Party and vote a Republican ballot in the primary election, or to affiliate with the Democratic Party and vote a Democratic ballot in the primary election.
- A person affiliates by completing a voter registration application and checking "Republican" or "Democratic" as the case may be.

Do Not Affiliate on Election Day

- A person registered to vote but not affiliated with any political party 21 days prior to the election *may not* vote a Republican ballot or a Democratic ballot in the primary election while remaining unaffiliated.
- A person registered to vote but not affiliated with any political party 21 days prior to the election may choose to remain unaffiliated, and is eligible to vote only on non-partisan questions if any are on the ballot.